

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1. (currently amended) A method of finding, in response to entry by a user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier, among a plurality of resources available on a network comprising a plurality of interconnected computers, the method for use on a finder server having access to: (a) a database storing database information including (i) an index of the available resources; and (ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous executions of the method; and (b) a learning system structured to access and learn from the database information, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier; ~~and~~

accessing the database to determine, based on the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier; and

learning from the database information via the learning system wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the multi-user feedback.

2. (canceled)

3. (original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein a resource is determined, at the accessing step, as likely to be the intended target resource if the database information indicates that a confidence level associated with that resource is of at least a predetermined level.

4. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 3, wherein, if none of the indexed resources has an associated confidence level of at least the predetermined level, the method further comprises the step of:

presenting the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence level being ranked highest.

5. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 3, wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

in a first user interface element:

causing a computer of the user to connect to a URL of an indexed resource having a highest confidence level; and

in a second user interface element:

presenting the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence level being ranked highest.

6. (currently amended) A method of finding, in response to entry by a user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target

resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier,
among a plurality of resources available on a network comprising a plurality of
interconnected computers, the method for use on a finder server having access to: (a) a
database storing database information including (i) an index of the available resources; and
(ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of
previous executions of the method; and (b) a learning system structured to access and learn
from the database information, the method according to Claim 4, further comprising the
steps of:

receiving a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

accessing the database to determine, based on the database information including
the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended
target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier, wherein a resource is
determined, at the accessing step, as likely to be the intended target resource if the database
information indicates that a confidence level associated with that resource is of at least a
predetermined level, and wherein, if none of the indexed resources has an associated
confidence level of at least the predetermined level;

presenting the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list
being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence
level being ranked highest;

selecting a link from the list of one or more links;

adding information regarding the selection of the link to the feedback information
stored in the database;

soliciting user feedback with regard to the selected link; and,

if the user indicates that the selected link is the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to increase the confidence level associated with a mapping between the resource identity signifier and an address of the selected link, and, if the user indicates that the selected link is not the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to decrease the confidence level associated with the mapping between the resource identity signifier and the address of the selected link.

7. (currently amended) A method ~~according to Claim 43 further comprising the steps of:~~ of finding, in response to entry by a user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier, among a plurality of resources available on a network comprising a plurality of interconnected computers, the method for use on a finder server having access to: (a) a database storing database information including (i) an index of the available resources; and (ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous executions of the method; and (b) a learning system structured to access and learn from the database information, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

accessing the database to determine, based on the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier;

causing a computer of the user to connect to the determined intended target resource, if any;

soliciting user feedback with regard to the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected in the directing step; and,

if the user indicates that the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected is the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to increase a confidence level associated with a mapping between the resource identity signifier and an address of the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected, and, if the user indicates that the resource to which the user's computer was connected is not the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to decrease the confidence level associated with the mapping between the resource identity signifier and the address of the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected.

8. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising a finder server having access to:

- (a) a database storing database information including:
 - (i) an index of a plurality of resources available on a network of interconnected computers on which a plurality of resources reside; and
 - (ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous operations of the apparatus; and
- (b) a learning system operable to access and learn from the database information, wherein the finder server is operable to locate, in response to entry by the user

of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier, among the available resources, by:

receiving a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier; ~~and~~

accessing the database to determine, based on the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier; and

learning from the database information via the learning system wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the multi-user feedback.

9. (canceled)

10. (previously presented) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein a resource is determined to be the intended target resource if the database information indicates that a confidence level associated with that resource is of at least a predetermined level.

11. (previously presented) An apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein the apparatus is operable to, if none of the indexed resources has an associated confidence level of at least the predetermined level, present the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence level being ranked highest.

12. (previously presented) An apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein the apparatus is further operable to:

- in a first user interface element:
 - cause a computer of the user to connect to a URL of an indexed resource having a highest confidence level; and
- in a second user interface element:
 - present the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence level being ranked highest.

13. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising a finder server having access to according to Claim 11:

- (a) a database storing database information including:
 - (i) an index of a plurality of resources available on a network of interconnected computers on which a plurality of resources reside; and
 - (ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous operations of the apparatus; and
- (b) a learning system operable to access and learn from the database information, wherein the finder server is operable to locate, in response to entry by the user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier, among the available resources, by:
 - receiving a user input;
 - recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

accessing the database to determine, based on the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier, wherein a resource is determined to be the intended target resource if the database information indicates that a confidence level associated with that resource is of at least a predetermined level, and wherein the apparatus is operable to, if none of the indexed resources has an associated confidence level of at least the predetermined level, present the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence level being ranked highest; and wherein the apparatus is operable to:

select a link from the list of one or more links;

add information regarding the selection of the link to the feedback information stored in the database;

solicit user feedback with regard to the selected link; and,

if the user indicates that the selected link is the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to increase the confidence level associated with a mapping between the resource identity signifier and an address of the selected link, and, if the user indicates that the selected link is not the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to decrease the confidence level associated with the mapping between the resource identity signifier and the address of the selected link.

14. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising a finder server having access to ~~according to Claim 45:~~

(a) a database storing database information including:

(i) an index of a plurality of resources available on a network of interconnected computers on which a plurality of resources reside; and

(ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous operations of the apparatus; and

(b) a learning system operable to access and learn from the database information, wherein the finder server is operable to locate, in response to entry by the user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier, among the available resources, by:

receiving a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier; and

accessing the database to determine, based on the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier, wherein the finder server is further operable to cause a computer of the user to connect to the determined intended target resource, if any, wherein the apparatus is further operable to:

solicit user feedback with regard to the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected; and,

if the user indicates that the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected is the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to increase a confidence level associated with a mapping between the resource identity signifier and an address of the determined intended

target resource to which the user's computer was connected, and, if the user indicates that the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected is not the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to decrease the confidence level associated with the mapping between the resource identity signifier and the address of the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected.

15. (currently amended) A system for finding, in response to entry by a user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier, among a plurality of resources available on a network comprising a plurality of interconnected computers, the system comprising:

finder server means having access to: (a) database means for storing database information including an index of the available resources and multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous executions of the system; and (b) learning system means for accessing and learning from the database information wherein the learning system means provides distinct weight to the multi-user feedback;

receiving means for receiving a user input;

recognizing means for recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

and

accessing means for accessing the database means to determine, based on the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier.

16. (canceled)

17. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 15, wherein a resource is determined, by the access means, as likely to be the intended target resource if the database information indicates that a confidence level associated with that resource is of at least a predetermined level.

18. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 17, further comprising:

presenting means for, if none of the indexed resources has an associated confidence level of at least the predetermined level, presenting the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence level being ranked highest.

19. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 17, further comprising:

means for, in a first user interface element, causing a computer of the user to connect to a URL of an indexed resource having a highest confidence level; and

means for, in a second user interface element, presenting the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence level being ranked highest

20. (currently amended) A system for finding, in response to entry by a user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target

resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier,
among a plurality of resources available on a network comprising a plurality of
interconnected computers, the system according to Claim 18, further comprising:

finder server means having access to: (a) database means for storing database
information including an index of the available resources and multi-user feedback gathered
from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous executions of the system;
and (b) learning system means for accessing and learning from the database information;

receiving means for receiving a user input;

recognizing means for recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

accessing means for accessing the database means to determine, based on the
database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed
resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource
identity signifier; wherein a resource is determined, by the access means, as likely to be the
intended target resource if the database information indicates that a confidence level
associated with that resource is of at least a predetermined level;

presenting means for, if none of the indexed resources has an associated confidence
level of at least the predetermined level, presenting the user with a list of one or more links
to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource
having a highest confidence level being ranked highest;

selection means for selecting a link from the list of one or more links;

adding means for adding information regarding the selection of the link to the
feedback information stored in the database;

soliciting means for soliciting user feedback with regard to the selected link; and

means for, if the user indicates that the selected link is the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to increase the confidence level associated with a mapping between the resource identity signifier and an address of the selected link, and, if the user indicates that the selected link is not the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to decrease the confidence level associated with the mapping between the resource identity signifier and the address of the selected link.

21. (currently amended): A system for finding, in response to entry by a user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier, among a plurality of resources available on a network comprising a plurality of interconnected computers, the system ~~according to Claim 47, further~~ comprising:

finder server means having access to: (a) database means for storing database information including an index of the available resources and multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous executions of the system; and (b) learning system means for accessing and learning from the database information;

receiving means for receiving a user input;

recognizing means for recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

accessing means for accessing the database means to determine, based on the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier;

control means for causing a computer of the user to connect to the determined intended target resource, if any;

soliciting means for soliciting user feedback with regard to the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected by the control means; and

means for, if the user indicates that the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected is the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to increase a confidence level associated with a mapping between the resource identity signifier and an address of the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected, and, if the user indicates that the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected is not the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to decrease the confidence level associated with the mapping between the resource identity signifier and the address of the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected.

22. (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing code for causing a processor-controlled finder server, which has access to: (a) a database storing database information including (i) an index of a plurality of resources available on a network of interconnected computers on which a plurality of resources reside; and (ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous operations of the finder server; and (b) a learning system structured to access and learn from the database information, to perform a method of finding, in response to entry by the user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended

target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier, among the available resources, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier; ~~and~~

accessing the database to determine, based on the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier; and

learning from the database information via the learning system wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the multi-user feedback.

23. (canceled)

24. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 22, wherein a resource is determined, in the accessing step, as likely to be the intended target resource if the database information indicates that a confidence level associated with that resource is of at least a predetermined level.

25. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 24, wherein, if none of the indexed resources has an associated confidence level of at least the predetermined level, the method further comprises the step of:

presenting the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence level being ranked highest.

26. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 24, wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

- in a first user interface element:
 - causing a computer of the user to connect to a URL of an indexed resource having a highest confidence level; and
- in a second user interface element:
 - presenting the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence level being ranked highest.

27. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing code for causing a processor-controlled finder server, which has access to: (a) a database storing database information including (i) an index of a plurality of resources available on a network of interconnected computers on which a plurality of resources reside; and (ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous operations of the finder server; and (b) a learning system structured to access and learn from the database information, to perform a method of finding, in response to entry by the user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier, among the available resources, according to Claim 25, wherein the method further comprises comprising the steps of:

receiving a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

accessing the database to determine, based on the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier, wherein a resource is determined, in the accessing step, as likely to be the intended target resource if the database information indicates that a confidence level associated with that resource is of at least a predetermined level, and wherein, if none of the indexed resources has an associated confidence level of at least the predetermined level, presenting the user with a list of one or more links to possible resources, the list being ordered according to confidence level, with a resource having a highest confidence level being ranked highest;

selecting a link from the list of one or more links;

adding information regarding the selection of the link to the feedback information stored in the database;

soliciting user feedback with regard to the selected link; and,

if the user indicates that the selected link is the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to increase the confidence level associated with a mapping between the resource identity signifier and an address of the selected link, and, if the user indicates that the selected link is not the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to decrease the confidence level associated with the mapping between the resource identity signifier and the address of the selected link.

28. (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing code for causing a processor-controlled finder server, which has access to: (a) a database storing database information including (i) an index of a plurality of resources available on

a network of interconnected computers on which a plurality of resources reside; and (ii)
multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of
previous operations of the finder server; and (b) a learning system structured to access and
learn from the database information, to perform a method of finding, in response to entry
by the user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended
target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity
signifier, among the available resources, according to Claim 49, wherein the method
further comprises comprising the steps of:

receiving a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

accessing the database to determine, based on the database information including
the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended
target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier;

causing a computer of the user to connect to the determined intended target
resource, if any;

soliciting user feedback with regard to the determined intended target resource to
which the user' s computer was connected; and,

if the user indicates that the determined intended target resource to which the user'
s computer was connected is the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier,
updating the database information so as to increase a confidence level associated with a
mapping between the resource identity signifier and an address of the determined intended
target resource to which the user' s computer was connected, and, if the user indicates that
the determined intended target resource to which the user' s computer was connected is not

the intended target resource of the resource identity signifier, updating the database information so as to decrease the confidence level associated with the mapping between the resource identity signifier and the address of the determined intended target resource to which the user's computer was connected.

29. (currently amended): A system for finding resources on a network of interconnected computers on which a plurality of resources reside, the system comprising:

a client terminal operated by a user, the client terminal allowing the user to connect to resources located on the network; and

a finder server having access to:

(a) a database storing database information including: (i) an index of a plurality of resources available on the network; and (ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous operations of the system; and

(b) a learning system operable to access and learn from the database information,

wherein the finder server is operable to locate, in response to entry by the user of a user input recognized as a resource identity signifier, a single, intended target resource intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the resource identity signifier, among the available resources:

receiving a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

accessing the database to determine, based on the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed resources is likely to be the intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier;

learning from the database information via the learning system wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the multi-user feedback; and

directing a computer of the user so as to cause that computer to connect the user to an address of a resource, if any, determined as likely to be the intended target resource.

30. (currently amended): A method of identifying, in response to entry by a user of a user input recognized as an object identity signifier, a single, intended object to be acted upon, wherein the single, intended object to be acted upon is intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the object identity signifier, among a plurality of possible objects, wherein the method utilizes a computer having access to: (a) a database storing database information including (i) an index of the possible objects; and (ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous executions of the method; and (b) a learning system structured to access and learn from the database information, and wherein the method comprises the steps of:

receiving a user input;

recognizing the user input as an object identity signifier; ~~and~~

accessing the database to determine, based upon the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed objects is likely to be the intended object to be acted upon based upon the recognized object identity signifier; and

learning from the database information via the learning system wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the multi-user feedback.

31. (currently amended): An apparatus for identifying, in response to entry by a user of a user input recognized as an object identity signifier, a single, intended object to be acted upon, wherein the single, intended object to be acted upon is intended by the user to uniquely correspond to the object identity signifier, among a plurality of possible objects, the apparatus comprising:

a computer having access to:

(a) a database storing database information including (i) an index of the possible objects; and (ii) multi-user feedback gathered from a plurality of users with respect to the results of previous operations of the apparatus; and

(b) a learning system structured to access and learn from the database information,

wherein the apparatus is operable to:

receive a user input;

recognize the user input as an object identity signifier; ~~and~~

access the database to determine, based upon the database information including the multi-user feedback, which, if any, of the indexed objects is likely to be the intended object to be acted upon based on the recognized object identity signifier; and

learn from the database information via the learning system wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the multi-user feedback.

32. (currently amended) A method of finding a single, intended target resource among a plurality of resources available on a network, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier; ~~and~~
utilizing feedback information stored in a database to determine a resource likely to
be the single, intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier;
and
learning from the database information wherein the learning provides distinct
weight to the feedback information.

33. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 32, wherein
the feedback information is gathered from a plurality of previous users of the method.

34. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 32, further
comprising the step of obtaining feedback from the user regarding the resource determined
in the utilizing step.

35. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 34, wherein
the feedback information stored in the database is updated with the feedback obtained from
the user.

36. (currently amended) An apparatus for finding a single, intended
target resource among a plurality of resources available on a network, the apparatus
comprising:

input means for enabling a user to enter a user input;

recognizing means for recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

~~and~~

determination means for using feedback information stored in a database to determine a resource likely to be the single, intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier; and

learning means for learning from the database information, wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the feedback information.

37. (previously presented) An apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein the feedback information is gathered from a plurality of previous users of the method.

38. (previously presented) An apparatus according to Claim 36, further comprising update means for updating the feedback information stored in the database with feedback obtained from the user regarding the resource determined by the determination means.

39. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for implementing a method of finding a single, intended target resource among a plurality of resources available on a network, the method comprising the steps of:

prompting a user to enter a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier; ~~and~~

utilizing feedback information stored in a database to determine a resource likely to be the single, intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier; and

learning from the database information wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the feedback information.

40. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 39, wherein the feedback information is gathered from a plurality of previous users of the method.

41. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 39, wherein the method further comprises the step of obtaining feedback from the user regarding the resource determined in the utilizing step.

42. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 41, wherein the feedback information stored in the database is updated with the feedback obtained from the user.

43. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of causing a computer of the user to connect to the determined intended target resource, if any.

44. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of causing a computer of the user to display the determined intended target resource, if any.

45. (previously presented) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the finder server is further operable to cause a computer of the user to connect to the determined intended target resource, if any.

46. (previously presented) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the finder server is further operable to cause a computer of the user to display the determined intended target resource, if any.

47. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 15, further comprising control means for causing a computer of the user to connect to the determined intended target resource, if any.

48. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 15, further comprising control means for causing a computer of the user to display the determined intended target resource, if any.

49. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 22, wherein the method further comprises the step of causing a computer of the user to connect to the determined intended target resource, if any.

50. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 22, wherein the method further comprises the step of causing a computer of the user to display the determined intended target resource, if any.

51. (currently amended) A method of finding a single, intended target resource among a plurality of resources available on the Internet, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier; and

utilizing multi-user feedback information stored in a database, to determine a resource likely to be the single, intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier, the feedback information relating to a result of the method; and learning from the database information wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the feedback information.

52. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 51, wherein the multi-user feedback information is obtained from the a result of a system inquiry of a user.

53. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 51, wherein the multi-user feedback information is obtained from clickstream data.

54. (currently amended) An apparatus for finding a single, intended target resource among a plurality of resources available on the Internet, the apparatus comprising:

input means for enabling a user to enter a user input;

recognizing means for recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier;

~~and~~

determination means for using multi-user feedback information stored in a database, to determine a resource likely to be the single, intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier, the feedback information relating to a result of the operation of the apparatus; and

learning means for learning from the database information wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the feedback information.

55. (previously presented) An apparatus according to Claim 54, wherein the multi-user feedback information is obtained from a result of a system inquiry of a user.

56. (previously presented) An apparatus according to Claim 54, wherein the multi-user feedback information is obtained from clickstream data.

57. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for implementing a method of finding a single, intended target resource among a plurality of resources available on the Internet, the method comprising the steps of:

prompting a user to enter a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier; ~~and~~

utilizing multi-user feedback information stored in a database, to determine a resource likely to be the single, intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier, the feedback information relating to a result of the method; and

learning from the database information wherein the learning provides distinct weight to the feedback information.

58. (previously presented) A medium according to Claim 57, wherein the multi-user feedback information is obtained from a result of a system inquiry of a user.

59. (previously presented) A medium according to Claim 57, wherein the multi-user feedback information is obtained from clickstream data.

60. (previously presented) A method of finding a single, intended target resource among a plurality of resources available on the Internet, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier, wherein the resource identity signifier does not include a URL or portion thereof; and

utilizing multi-user feedback information stored in a database to determine a resource likely to be the single, intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier.

61. (previously presented) An apparatus for finding a single, intended target resource among a plurality of resources available on the Internet, the apparatus comprising:

input means for enabling a user to enter a user input;

recognizing means for recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier, wherein the resource identity signifier does not include a URL or portion thereof; and

determination means for using multi-user feedback information stored in a database, to determine a resource likely to be the single, intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier.

62. (previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for implementing a method of finding a single, intended target resource among a plurality of resources available on the Internet, the method comprising the steps of:

prompting a user to enter a user input;

recognizing the user input as a resource identity signifier, wherein the resource identity signifier does not include a URL or portion thereof; and

utilizing multi-user feedback information stored in a database, to determine a resource likely to be the single, intended target resource based on the recognized resource identity signifier.